CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Fellowship

PEACE INFORMATION EDITION

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TOYS, TOTS, AND TERRORS: A LETTER FROM A MOTHER

FOR member Elise Boulding expressed her "annual Christmas uneasiess" over the "grisly toys of played-at destruction" on sale at this season, a letter which appeared in the Dec. 2 issue of the *Saturday Review.* Excerpts om this significant letter are reprinted here:

"The day this fall when a prominent elf in our local A & P was invaded a toy missile base ("Lay Away Now r Xmas") was the moment of truth r me. It is no longer possible to reain silent. When the arms race and e toy race become synonymous, what oes this mean for a country whose resident has just offered world leaderhip in a peace race? Are we happy out being the only nation in the orld that manufactures miniature eapons and military accoutrements n a large scale for our children?

"My concern is not with stifling e normal needs for expression of aggression on the part of children. Nor ave I even been unduly worried over e cult of violence in TV, comics and e cowboy culture. It has been my obervation as the mother of five active oungsters that healthy children with pportunities to develop a wide range f interests channel a very small proortion of their energy into violence, ock or real. My concern is that we are abituating our children to the possiility of nuclear destruction, so that ey will grow up to an unquestioning se of self-annihilating means to deend an obsolete concept of the world.

"How do you draw the line between ermissible and nonpermissible toys in is context? It is not easy. Toy soliers are an ancient and revered form f toy, hallowed in Robert Louis Stenson's beloved *Child's Garden of Verses.* At what point does the redkerchiefed cowboy become a heavily holstered menace? Is a water pistol a gun? I think it is more important that we be conscious of the problem of emphasis than that any particular toy should be boycotted, *except for toy versions of equipment in current or past used by the armed forces.* Here our protest can be clear. Glorifying Revolutionary War and Civil War equipment can only lead to confusion in the mind of the child.

"Like many of your readers, I am a busy but anxious parent with little extra time at my disposal. My voice alone means nothing. Who will join me in an effort to open the minds of the children of our time to the challenges

(Continued on next page)

The Cost of Survival

"I believe that the family shelter plan contributes to the idea that nuclear war is inevitable, fosters the illusion that a post-nuclear war would be worth living in and, most important of all, encourages in man the animal instinct for survival at the cost of the human principle of the brotherhood of man."

--Mrs. Wayne Elwood Sr., in a letter to acting UN Secretary General U Thant.

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Toys, Tots, and Terrors *(cont'd)*

of peace by making available to them the toys of peace?"

Mrs. Boulding concludes by urging that persons a) ask store owners in their town to put more constructive toys in the place of war toys; b) urge store owners not to order war toys for next year; c) communicate with toy manufacturers, urging them to make constructive toys rather than war toys; d) run advertisements in local newspapers offering support to local toy stores that cooperate in making a shift in emphasis from toys of war to toys of peace.

Ministers Petition for McCrackin's Release

More than 70 clergymen in the Cincinnati, Ohio, area on Dec. 5 signed an open letter calling for the release of FOR member Maurice McCrackin, who was recently jailed in Brownsville, Tenn., after his arrest there on charges of "loitering." The letter, specifically urging the people of Fayette and Haywood counties in Tennessee to work for his "proper release," pointed out that McCrackin was on an errand of mercy with clothing and supplies for evicted Negro families in the state when he was arrested.

On Nov. 26, McCrackin ended a 24-day fast which he had begun in prison in objection to his arrest. Meanwhile, members of the Cincinnati Presbytery, extended "love and affection" to McCrackin and announced that a Committee from the Presbytery was being appointed to act in the situation.

In September, the Ohio Synod directed that McCrackin be given a new trial by the Presbytery of Cincinnati which suspended him last May from the West Cincinnati St. Barnabas Church for refusal to pay taxes for war purposes.

Freedom Riders Win Nonviolent Fight; Yale Chaplain, Others Jailed

Six Freedom Riders successfully desegregated the white waiting room at the McComb, Miss., Greyhound bus terminal last month, while a crowd of 500 whites looked on. The group, members of the Congress of Racial Equality, were seeking to test the city's compliance with a Federal Court's directive to halt segregation at such terminals. Two days earlier, a mob of cursing white supremecists shouting 'Kill 'em, kill 'em" set upon the six in their first attempt to desegregate the terminal. About a dozen men joined in pummeling the group, pushing and kicking them. The group finally reached safety by taking a taxi to a Negro hotel. Five minutes after the violence local police arrived on the scene. When the Freedom Riders subsequently returned, they were not molested.

Meanwhile, eleven Freedom Riders including Rev. William Sloane Coffin Jr., chaplain of Yale University, were convicted on appeal last month in Montgomery, Ala., on charges growing out of a bus depot lunch counter sit in last May.

Scottish Ministers Hold Peace Vigil

Thirty-four ministers of the Church of Scotland and the United Free, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational and Episcopal Churches participated in a "vigil for world peace," in George Square, Glasgow, last month. "We are hoping," the ministers said, "by standing up with Jesus...what Bertrand Russell hopes to achieve by sitting down with nuclear disarmers at Trafalgar Square: Ours is the Christian approach."

NEWS from the peace front

The Highlander Folk School in Monteagle, Tenn., officially came to an end in October following refusal by the U.S. Supreme Court to review a Tennessee Supreme Court edict ordering the school closed and its property confiscated. The U.S. Supreme Court said no federal question was involved in the case. Decision by the state court earlier had not touched on the segregation issue which was at the heart of the case; its ruling was rather based on charges, denied by school officials, that the school sold beer without a license and was operated for the personal benefit of its director.

Highlander Folk school, an integrated educational institution, had stood for 29 years as a beacon of creative thought and democratic practice.

* * *

Walter Trench, a CO and part-time worker at FOR National Headquarters in Nyack, N.Y., entered a plea of guilty last month in the Newark Federal District Court for his conscientious stand against military service. When ordered last December to report for a pre-induction physical Trench returned his draft registration and classification cards to the local draft board with a statement of his reason for disaffiliating completely from the conscription system.

* * *

The Georgia Council of Churches, meeting in Atlanta, Ga., last month adopted a resolution stating that it is "unalterably opposed" to the death penalty, especially for juveniles. "As Christians," the statement said, "we believe in the dignity and worth of each human being...and that capital punishment has been proven to be an ineffective deterrent to crime."

* * *

A plan whereby non-nuclear countries would take the initiative in seeking a solution to the problem of prohibiting nuclear weapons tests was offered by Sweden in the UN last month and supported by six other pro-Western neutrals. The plan incorporates two ideas--one for an atom free zone in Central Europe, the other for a "non-nuclear club" of smaller nations. The plan would instruct the UN Secretary General to ask the non-nuclear powers if they would be willing to "enter into undertakings to refrain from manufacturing or otherwise acquiring such weapons and to refuse to receive in the future nuclear weapons on their territories on behalf of any other country" and to submit the results to the Disarmament Commission next April.

The other six countries joining with Sweden in the proposal included Austria, Ceylon, Ethiopia, Libya, Sudan Tunisia.

* * *

FOR member Martin Niemöller was among six church leaders named to head the World Council of Churches until its next assembly in 1967 or 1968, it was announced in New Delhi, India, last month.

* * *

In England last month, London police launched a campaign apparently to incriminate certain members of the Committee of 100. The police visited both the offices and printers of the Committee intending to find out who from the organization was responsible for

(Continued on next page)

EUROPEAN PEACE TRIP — 1962

FOR-sponsored and directed peace seminar to Europe via chartered plane, for members only. Five weeks starting about August 1, 1962. Choice of one or two peace seminars, meeting major peace leaders in England and the Continent, plus sightseeing, etc., at very low rates. Adult and youth groups, accompanied by national staff members. Descriptive brochure ready October 1. Write for it at FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y., and prepare now for peace and the event of your life.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS Please allow 4 weeks—supply both old and new address

the general briefing (containing a drawing of the NATO base at Wethersfield) and pledge form for the Dec. 9 massive demonstrations protesting nuclear arms. All 100 members of the Committee took responsibility for the leaflets, but the police seemed intent on picking out certain individuals--presumably because they are unwilling to arrest the entire leadership.

MISSING MEMBERS

If you know the whereabouts of any of these missing members, please advise the Membership Secretary, FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

Here are the names, with last-known addresses where available: Gordon W. Nugent (New York, N.Y.); Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Weisshaar (Libertyville, Ill.); Alan K. Dowty (Mt. Carroll, Ill.); Ruth Driscoll (New York, N.Y.); Mrs. Lola DuBose (Yellowstone Park, Wyo.); Philip D. Duckworth (Mansfield, O.); Robert E. Dudgeon (Madison, Wisc.); Ralph Dunkel (Cincinnati, O.); Mrs. Henry J. Dute (Berkeley, Cal.); Mr. and Mrs. Walter D. Dyck (Wichita, Kan.); Rev. George S. Easley (Ludlow Falls, O.); Lyman E. Eastman (Scipio Center, N.Y.); James Eberly (Chicago, Ill.); Alexander H. Edwards (Parkville, Mo.); George W. Eicher (Bluffton, O.).

LIT NOTES

The latest number of *Current Issues*, entitled "Khrushchev Under Pressure," gives the history of disarmament negotiations over the past few years. Available free from Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y. Please enclose stamped, self-addressed long envelope.

* * *

Now available: "Colossal Deception--Analysis of the Shelter Program" by Linus Pauling. Reprinted from *Liberation*, the article exposes the discrepancies inherent in optimistic predictions about survival value of fallout shelters. Price: 10¢ each; 15 for $1. Order from Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

* * *

A Time to Weep? by A.J. Muste is an 11-page pamphlet on Berlin and the international crisis. Muste, just returned from Berlin, Poland and the USSR, calls for a turn to nonviolence and unilateral disarmament before it is too late. Price: 10¢ a copy. Order from Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y.

CORRECTION

The Nov. 15, 1961 Peace Information Edition incorrectly attributed the drawing up of the children's petition to stop the arms race to children living in Hyde Park, N.Y. It was in fact composed by children living in New Hyde Park, L.I. At last report, some 7000 children had signed the message, which was delivered to UN Under Secretary General Ralph Bunche on Nov. 25.

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